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function was making loans, usually guaranteed by mortgages or tangible pledges of some sort.

The whole book is characterized not so much by absolute dogmatic conclusions as by an exceedingly careful examination of all the possible sources of information regarding the business life of the ancient Greeks; not so much by sweeping generalizations like those of Rodbertus and Bücher, as by the constant and conscientious endeavor to picture the material life of the Greeks in all its peculiar complexity and variety. It furnishes the reader with a complete tableau of classic Greek economics and produces the impression of careful research and brilliant analysis.

C. W. A. VEDITZ.

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Actual Government as Applied under American Conditions. By ALBERT BUSHNELL HART, LL. D. Pp. xxxiv, 599. Price, \$2.00. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1903.

This is the latest and, in some respects, the most valuable contribution to the recent output of high-class text-book literature on American government of which the manuals of Ashley and Woodburn are the other most notable examples. The volume under review represents a distinct departure from the conventional text-book on civil government in that it emphasizes, first of all, the actual workings and functions of government rather than the structure and machinery. It brings to the front what may be called the *personal* element in government, a feature which adds interest and vitality to the treatment of the subject. Again, our federal system is not treated as though it consisted of two entirely separate governments, one national, the other local, but as integral parts of one system, each as important in the general mechanism as the other. Finally, the historical element is interwoven with the descriptive in a manner which leaves hardly a dull or uninteresting page in the book. Perhaps the feature that most impresses the reader is its encyclopedic character. Certainly no book of the kind has yet appeared which contains in so compact a form such a vast range of information on so many phases of American government. Hardly any aspect of government activity is left undiscussed. Besides the usual discussion of the structure and operation of government, there are special chapters on such topics as the organization of commerce, transportation, education, religion and public morals, public order, land and landholding, boundaries and annexations, territories and colonies, taxation, public finance, foreign intercourse and commerce, suffrage and elections, the physical basis of government, etc., etc. To each chapter is prefixed a list of classified references, while a general bibliography is placed at the beginning, both features adding greatly to the value of the work. Unfortunately, however, the work otherwise so valuable is marred by evidences of apparent haste in preparation, which has led the author into a good many inaccuracies of statement. Some of these may be noted. On page 16, and again on page 494, the date of the fourteenth amendment is given as 1870, while on pages 31 and 69 it is given as 1868. On page 17, the

statement is made that no member of an Indian tribe can acquire citizenship by naturalization, whereas the Supreme Court, in the case of *Elk vs. Wilkins*, held that it could be acquired in no other way. On page 69, the statement is made that the suffrage was conferred upon the negro in most of the Southern States by "reorganized legislatures in 1865-66," which is not true. Suffrage was first conferred on the negroes by the reconstruction acts and was first exercised in the autumn of 1867 in the State elections for delegates to the constitutional conventions called by the military commanders. On page 75, we are told that since 1841 all the States are by an act of Congress compelled to vote for members of Congress and presidential electors on Tuesday after the first Monday in November. This day was fixed for all the States by an act of Congress passed in 1872, but was amended three years later so as to exempt from its effect those States whose constitutions prescribed a different day. At the present time representatives in Congress are chosen in Oregon and Vermont in June, and in Maine in September. It is misleading to say, as is done on page 262, that presidential electors were chosen in Colorado by the legislature as late as 1876, when in reality it was the first time they were chosen there by any method, and the choice was assumed by the legislature because of insufficient time to provide for popular choice of the electors between the date of the admission of the State to the Union and the date of the presidential election. On the same page, the statement is made that Michigan tried the district method of choosing electors in 1896, whereas the year was 1892. On the following page (263), it is stated that the electoral colleges meet in their respective States on the first Wednesday in January. By the act of 1887, this date was fixed as the second Monday in January. On page 313, in discussing the liability of States to suit in the Federal Courts, the statement is made that the Supreme Court held, in the Virginia coupon cases, that a suit against the State Treasurer to compel him to receive certain coupons in payment of taxes was in effect a suit against the State, and, therefore, contrary to the eleventh amendment. This is an error. It was held in *Poindexter vs. Greenhow*, one of the Virginia coupon cases, that where the officer acts as such under color of an unconstitutional law and invades rights acquired under contract with the State, he is not clothed with the authority of the State and cannot plead that a suit against him is a suit against the State. To set up such a defense he must show that he acted under a valid law. On page 495 it is stated that the Supreme Court held in 1871 and 1884 that the issue of legal-tender notes was constitutional *even in time of peace*. The Court undoubtedly took this advanced ground in the case of *Julliard* against *Greenman* in 1884, but in the earlier case the right was upheld only as a war measure, and nothing was said about the right of Congress to exercise such power in time of peace. On page 497 it is stated that the ratio between gold and silver was changed by an act of Congress in 1832 to 16½ to 1. Both the date and the ratio are wrong. The year was 1834, and the ratio 16 to 1. Finally, on page 508, it is stated that the rate of letter postage was reduced in 1853 to three cents, and in 1885 to two cents, whereas the dates were 1863 and 1883 respectively. Such are some of the inaccuracies

noticed from a hasty reading of the book. Happily, most of them are errors of minor importance, but they indicate a hurry of preparation which text-book writers would do well to guard against. Apart from this, Professor Hart's book is a unique and valuable contribution to the literature of civil government in the United States.

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Lavisse: Histoire de France, Vol. I, Part 1, *Tableau de la Géographie de la France*. By P. VIDAL DE LA BLACHE. Pp. 395. Vol. II, Part 1, *Le Christianisme, Les Barbares Mérovingiens et Carolingiens*. By BAYET, PFISTER and KLEINCLAUSZ. Pp. 444. Paris: Hachette, 1903.

In the first section, *Personnalité Géographique de la France*, the author treats of the form and structure of France, the influence of the Mediterranean and of the neighboring countries, and the physiognomy in general. The second section, which comprises four-fifths of the volume, is a description of the individual portions. There is an abundance of excellent maps and figures. The treatment is based upon the latest researches, and is masterly. The concise statements, the scientific exactitude, and the delightful characterizations of the various sections, are equally admirable.

The author connects the geography and history of France in a most illuminating manner; but he realizes fully the action of history upon the relations between man and the soil which he inhabits. The latter point is brought out especially well in the conclusion, where he shows the way in which the centralization of the French monarchy interfered with the material development of France.

The maps on pages 378, 379 and 382, showing respectively the Roman roads, the post roads at the end of the eighteenth century, and the principal railroads at the present day, are especially instructive.

His hints as to the possibility of developments in France, because of changes now taking place, are very interesting. "*L'histoire de notre pays nous fait assister à un riche développement de dons variés, mais elle ne nous fournit qu'une traduction incomplète des aptitudes de la France. Nos générations auraient tort de se complaire au spectacle du passé au point d'oublier que dans nos montagnes, nos fleuves, nos mers, dans l'ensemble géographique qui se résume dans le mot France, bien des énergies attendent encore leur tour.*" "*L'étude attentive de ce qui est fixe et permanent dans les conditions géographiques de la France, doit être ou devenir plus que jamais notre guide.*"

We regret that there is no separate index for this portion. Of course, there will be a general index when the whole work is concluded, but a special index for this geographical tableau would be more serviceable.

The second volume is an instance of remarkably successful coöperative work. M. Bayet contributes Book I, *Le Christianisme et les Germains en Gaule*, and Chapter V of Book II, on *L'Eglise, Les Lettres, Les Arts* of the Merovingian period. M. Pfister writes the other chapters of Book II on the Merovingian period, and, in addition, Chapters VI and VII of the Third